

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00297 241443Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-06 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /110 W
-----118800 250047Z /70

R 241314Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2830
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 0297

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EIND, SW, EEC, EFTA, GATT, OECD
SUBJ: SWEDISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING SOME FORM OF SUPPORT FOR
HARD-HIT TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY

REF: STOCKHOLM 0833

1. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN FALLKOPING ON JANUARY 23, SWEDEN'S INDUSTRY MINISTRY NILS G. ASLING STATED IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE TO PROVIDE THE DOMESTIC TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY WITH SOME FORM OF PROTECTION AGAINST IMPORTS SIMILAR TO THAT GIVEN THE DOMESTIC SHOE INDUSTRY SOME YEARS AGO. IT WAS ON NOVEMBER 5, 1975 THAT IMPORTS OF MOST TYPES OF FOOTWARE WERE MADE SUBJECT TO QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS AND IMPORT LICENSE REQUIREMENT REGARDLESS OF SOURCE. HOWEVER, DUE TO WIDESPREAD CRITICISM OF THE MOVE FROM BOTH INTERNATIONAL AND SWEDISH QUARTERS, THESE RESTRICTIONS WERE REMOVED ON JULY 1, 1977 BUT RETAINED FOR RUBBER BOOTS FROM NON-EC AND NON-EFTA SOURCES.

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PAGE 02 STOCKH 00297 241443Z

2. MINISTER ASLING CALLED ATTENTION TO THE PRESENT PREDICAMENT OF THE SWEDISH TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY WHICH HAS BEEN, AND STILL IS, SEVERELY HIT BY LOW-COST FOREIGN COMPETITORS. THIS INDUSTRY IS NOW ONE OF THE NATION'S MAJOR PROBLEM SECTORS, AND THE QUESTION HAS NOW ARISEN AS TO HOW FAR THE DECLINE CAN BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT IS FORCED TO INTERVENE IN ORDER TO ENSURE A CERTAIN MINIMUM

LEVEL OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION IN THE EVENT SWEDEN SHOULD BE
CUT OFF FROM SUPPLY SOURCES ABROAD. THE SWEDISH INDUSTRY
MINISTER STATED HE DID NOT WISH TO INDICATE AT THIS STAGE
WHAT MEASURES SWEDEN WOULD TAKE TO SAFEGUARD A CERTAIN LEVEL
OF NATIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY--WHETHER IT BE IN THE FORM OF
QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS OR SOME OTHER FORM OF
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, INDUSTRY, TARIFFS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STOCKH00297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780036-0586
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780127/aaaaawse.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56daa1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STOCKHOLM 833
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3720794
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING SOME FORM OF SUPPORT FOR HARD-HIT TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY
TAGS: ETRD, EIND, SW, EEC, EFTA, GATT, OECD, (ASLING, NILS G)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56daa1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014